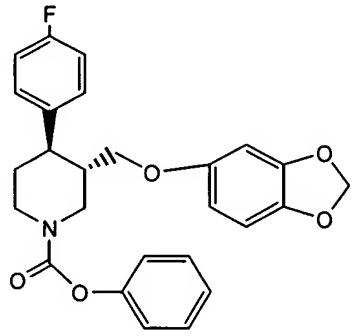
Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all previous claims and listing of claims in this application.

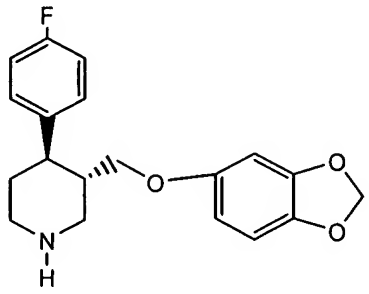
Listing of Claims

1 (amended). A process for the production of paroxetine, which comprises hydrolyzing a paroxetine phenylcarbamate of formula (3)



(3)

with a hydrolyzing agent in a solvent system comprising an aliphatic alcohol and ~~a hydrocarbon co-solvent~~ toluene, to form a paroxetine compound of formula (1)



(1)

2 (previously presented). The process according to claim 1, wherein said alcohol has a boiling point from about 70°C to about 150°C.

3 (previously presented). The process according to claim 2, wherein said alcohol is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, n-propanol, isopropanol, 1-butanol, 2-butanol and tertiary butanol.

4 (previously presented). The process according to Claim 3, wherein said alcohol is 1-butanol.

5-8 (cancelled)

9 (amended). The process according to claim 1, wherein the ratio of said alcohol solvent to said ~~co-solvent~~ toluene is within the range of 100-1:1 based on volume.

10 (previously presented). The process according to claim 9, wherein said solvent system comprises 1-butanol and toluene in a volume ratio of about 2.5:1.

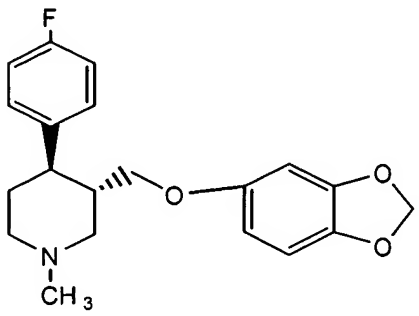
11 (previously presented). The process according to claim 1, wherein said hydrolyzing agent is an alkali metal-containing compound.

12 (previously presented). The process according to claim 11, wherein said hydrolyzing agent is selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal hydroxide, an alkali metal alkoxide, an alkali metal carbonate, and combinations of two or more thereof.

13 (previously presented). The process according to claim 12, wherein said hydrolyzing agent is potassium hydroxide.

14 (previously presented). The process according to claim 1, wherein said hydrolyzing proceeds essentially in solution.

15 (previously presented). The process according to claim 1, which further comprises reacting N-methylparoxetine of formula (2)



(2)

with a phenyl haloformate to form said paroxetine phenylcarbamate of formula (3).

16 (previously presented). The process according to claim 15, wherein said phenyl haloformate is phenyl chloroformate.

17 (amended). The process according to claim 16, wherein said N-methylparoxetine is reacted with said phenyl haloformate in ~~a hydrocarbon solvent~~ toluene.

18 (cancelled).

19 (amended). The process according to claim [18] 17, wherein the mixture of N-methyl paroxetine, phenyl haloformate, and ~~hydrocarbon solvent~~ toluene is substantially not subjected to any processing steps.

20 (amended). The process according to claim [18] 17, wherein said paroxetine phenylcarbamate is not isolated before being subjected to said hydrolyzing reaction.

21 (previously presented). The process according to claim 1, which further comprises converting said paroxetine into a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

22 (previously presented). The process according to claim 21, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt is paroxetine hydrochloride.

23 (previously presented). The process according to claim 21, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt is paroxetine mesylate.

24 (cancelled).

25 (cancelled).